

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image recording apparatus comprising:
  - a connector through which a motion image is inputted;
  - a memory in which an image of a motion image inputted through the connector, which constructs one frame, is stored as a still image;
  - a display device on which an image is displayed;
  - an image signal switching circuit for switching a motion image inputted through the connector and a still image read from the memory, and outputting a selected one to the display device;
  - a remote controller for instructing start of image recording;
  - a recording processing circuit for recording a displayed image onto a predetermined recording medium according to the state of the image signal switching circuit that performs switching; and
  - a recording control circuit for, when the remote controller instructs image recording, setting a recording mode of the recording processing circuit according to the state of the image signal switching circuit.
2. An image recording apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein when an image displayed on the display device is a

still image, if the remote controller instructs image recording, the recording control circuit sets a still image recording mode for the recording processing circuit.

3. An image recording apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein when an image displayed on the display apparatus is a motion image, if the remote controller instructs image recording, the recording control circuit sets a motion image recording mode for the recording processing circuit.

4. An image recording apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein: the recording control circuit includes an information memory in which information indicating whether an image outputted to the display device via the image signal switching circuit is a still image or a motion image is stored; and the recording control circuit automatically determines a recording mode of the recording processing circuit by referring information stored in the information memory when the remote controller instructs image recording.

5. An image recording apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein: the recording processing circuit includes a motion image compressing processing circuit that compresses a motion image, and a still image compressing processing circuit that compresses a still image; and the recording

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processing circuit compresses the motion image or still image according to a recording mode set by the recording control circuit.

6. An image recording apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein when the remote controller instructs start of image recording, the recording control circuit instructs updating of a still image stored in the memory according to the state of the image signal switching circuit, and instructs the recording circuit to record the still image updated.

7. An image recording apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising a second connector, through which a motion image is inputted, in addition to the connector, and an input switching circuit that switches a motion image received through the connector and a motion image received through the second connector.

8. An image recording apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising a thumbnail image producing unit that produces thumbnail images according to a plurality of images recorded on the recording medium.

9. An image recording apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising a graphic processor for producing graphic

image data in response to an instruction from the recording control circuit, wherein the image signal switching circuit outputs graphic image data generated in the graphic processor to the display device.

10. An image recording apparatus according to Claim 8, further comprising a graphic processor that displays an image designation mark on a thumbnail image in response to an instruction from the remote controller.

11. An image recording apparatus according to Claim 9, wherein the graphic processor produces a menu screen to adjust a displayed image, and the remote controller includes a switch that instructs display of the menu screen, and a lever switch that selects the display item corresponding to arrangement of a display item in the menu screen.

12. An image recording apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising a reproducing processing circuit for reading an image recorded on the recording medium to display the read image on the display device.

13. An image recording apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein when an image recorded on the recording medium is a compressed image, the reproducing processing circuit reads

the image from the recording medium to decompress the image.

14. An image recording apparatus according to Claim 1, further comprising a voice recording processing circuit that records a voice signal.

15. An image recording apparatus according to Claim 1, wherein the remaining storage capacity of the recording medium, which is available for storage of information, is detected to be indicated.

16. An image recording apparatus comprising:  
an image selecting circuit for selecting either of a motion image and a still image that are outputted;  
a display device on which a motion image or a still image selected by the image selecting circuit is displayed;  
a remote controller for use in instructing start of image recording;  
a recording processing circuit for recording a motion image or a still image;  
an image recording medium onto which an image is recorded by the recording processing circuit;  
a recording control circuit for, when image recording from the remote controller is instructed, controlling to determine a recording mode, in which one of a motion image

and a still image is recorded by the recording circuit, responsively to selection state of the image selecting circuit.

17. An image recording apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein when an image displayed on the display device by the image selecting circuit is a still image, if an instruction for start of image recording is made by the remote controller, the recording control circuit controls the recording circuit so that the recording circuit will record the still image.

18. An image recording apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein when an image displayed on the display device by the image selecting circuit is a motion image, if an instruction for start of image recording is made by the remote controller, the recording control circuit controls the recording circuit so that the recording circuit will record the motion image.

19. An image recording apparatus according to Claim 16, further comprising a still image producing circuit that produces a still image from a motion image, wherein the motion image and the still image produced by the still image producing circuit are outputted to the image selecting

circuit.

20. An image recording apparatus according to Claim 16, wherein the still image producing circuit is comprised of a memory in which a still image constructing one frame is stored.

21. An image recording method to be implemented in an image recording apparatus that freezes an input image signal to output the resultant signal to a display device, comprising:

a recording starting step of instructing start of image recording;

a displayed state judging step of judging the state of an image displayed on the display device;

a recording mode setting step of setting a recording mode according to the result of judgment at the displayed state judging step; and

a recording processing step of recording an image displayed on the display device onto a predetermined recording medium according to the result of setting at the recording mode setting step.

22. An image recording method according to Claim 21, wherein: if a displayed image is judged to be a still image

at the displayed state judging step, a mode is set to a recording mode to record a still image at the recording step; and if the displayed image is judged to be a motion image at the displayed state judging step, a mode is set to the recording mode to record a motion image at the recording processing step.

23. An image recording method according to Claim 21, further comprising a still image updating step of, when a displayed image is judged to be a motion image at the displayed state judging step, updating a still image, and a still image recording step of recording the still image updated.

24. An image recording method to be implemented in an image recording apparatus having the ability to select one of a motion image and a still image selected by an image selecting circuit to output the selected image to a display device, the image recording method comprising:

a recording starting step of instructing start of image recording;

a displayed image judging step of judging whether an image selected by the image selecting circuit and displayed on the display device is a still image or a motion image;

a recording mode setting step of automatically setting



a recording mode, in which one of a still image and a motion image is recorded, according to the result of judgment at the displayed image judging step; and

a recording processing step of recording a still image or a motion image displayed on the display device onto a recording medium according to the result of setting at the recording mode setting step.